

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Infantry Training School for CSR Army in
Lipnik nad Bečvou

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE ACQUIRED BY SOURCE

DATE OF INFORMATION

DATE DISTR. 1 March 1952

NO. OF PAGES 7
50X1 50X1

NO. OF ENCLS. 1
(LISTED BELOW) (A) 2 pages

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 50X1

50X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[Redacted Content]

there were two classes, totalling 780 students, in attendance. The school was divided into two one-year classes. The first class was composed of SDD (Skola Dostojnicke Dorostu - Officers' School for Youth) graduates and graduates of gymnasiums with diplomas. Upon completion of the first year at school the students were commissioned as junior lieutenants. The second year course was composed of graduates of the first course (excepting those who were sent to universities for special study) and NCOs and Junior Lieutenants of the regular army who could meet the pre-requisites. Upon graduation from the second year, students were commissioned as lieutenants, or were occasionally advanced one or two grades in cases of outstanding political potential, or when the need for these officer graduates arose.

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

STATE	X	NAVY	X																
ARMY	X	AIR	X	REC	X	FBI	X												

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-2-

SECRET

50X1

2. The students of the school were taught by 95-100 officer instructors and 25 NCO instructors. School supervision was exercised by two Soviet officers. Infantry and Artillery Colonel (fnu) Vorobyev and Infantry Lieutenant Colonel (fnu) Klimenko. Officially these two officers were called political advisors, but in practice they supervised the training, curriculum, and schedules to ensure conformation to Soviet teaching methods.

50X1

50X1

the sections and section heads of the school were as follows:

CO - Inf Col Bohumil Chlan
 Administration - Lt Col Josef Tichy
 Personnel - Maj (unknown)
 Political - Staff Capt (fnu) Bartusek
 Training - Lt Col Josef Drimalka
 Tactical group - Maj Josef Kubo
 Firing group - S/Capt (fnu) Vitek and Sr Lt Marian Krissak
 General subjects - Lt Col (fnu) Vajcik
 Supply and Materiel - Col Frantisek Sekerka
 Military Intelligence (Obranne Zpravodajstvi) - Maj (fnu) Mahrle, assisted by Sr Lt Frantisek Ambra

3. Among the 95-100 officer instructors at the school, I knew the following:

Capt Miroslav Masopust - in charge of SCM (Svaz Cesko-slovenske Mladeze - Czech Youth Association)
 Sr Lt Ondrej Pisk
 Sr Lt (fnu) Drimal
 Maj Miroslav Konvicka
 Capt (fnu) Vancata
 S/Capt Josef Bures
 S/Capt (fnu) Longauer

4. The students at the school were divided into three school battalions as follows:

1st Bn - CO Lt Col Josef Stancik; staff of four officers; three companies in the battalion
 2d Bn - CO, Maj (fnu) Vavrik; staff of four officers; two companies in the battalion
 3d Bn - CO, Maj (fnu) Pisarci; staff of four officers; three companies in the battalion

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-3-

SECRET

50X1

5. Tactical training at the school, for both classes, began with the start of the school year and was arranged as follows:

October through November - individual training
 December through January - squad training
 February through March - platoon training
 April through May - company training
 June through August - summer training at the Libava camp
 September - vacation (students go on furlough)

Individual training included basic rifle and bayonet training, camouflage, liaison and reconnaissance training, and training with 45-mm AT guns. Squad training concerned the composition of the squad, application of individual training in the squad, squad movements, the securing of positions, and battle indoctrination under simulated combat conditions. Combat training employed the squad as a reconnaissance patrol, as an advance patrol, as a patrol to secure captured positions, as an attack squad, as a defensive squad, and as a security detail during movements and marches. Platoon training reviewed the experience gained in the individual and squad training cycle, propounded the organization of the platoon and its employment as the smallest organized unit capable of carrying out a combat assignment. Training was conducted for attacks, assaults, assault waves to capture the first, second or third trench lines; fixed and perimeter defense, mobile defense, and the employment of the platoon as a flanking or base unit. During training the platoon used its own combat equipment, but on certain missions some or all of the following auxiliary equipment and personnel were attached: MG squad; 45-mm AT squad; and/or mortar squad. During company training all phases of combat were studied and the use of HMGs, mortars, and 45-mm AT guns was studied exhaustively. Second year training at the school reviewed the first year in detail, with thorough study of the same subjects, supplemented by several additional courses which I cannot recall. During the first year the concentration of study is to obtain basic military knowledge; the second year stresses leadership training.

6. Great importance was attached to rifle training at the infantry school. Two to four hours each week were devoted to this training. As a rule the platoon was divided into six groups or the squad was broken into two parts, in order to facilitate training, and to afford almost individual attention. A typical firing training schedule was as follows:

1st phase - assembly and disassembly of the rifle, loading and unloading; assumption of the various firing positions

2d phase - aiming from prone, squatting and standing positions with the rifle, with and without support; firing at a camouflaged prone figure target at a range of 100 m

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

50X1

3d phase - triangulation exercises with the rifle

4th phase - loading and unloading the LMG; assumption of the various firing positions

5th phase - aiming, sighting, and firing the LMG

6th phase - aiming the SMG from prone, squatting and standing positions, with and without support; firing at a camouflaged prone figure at a distance of 100 m

Additionally, three times per week, there was rifle training on the school firing range. The same general pattern of training as outlined in the previous schedule was carried out, but the periods were only of 30 minutes duration. The school firing range has a trench and embrasures for riflemen to assume the prone, squatting or standing positions. Training at the range was carried on despite most adverse weather conditions.

7. The tactical group of the teaching staff works out battle training assignments for individuals, squads, platoons and companies for a certain phase of a battle; and, taking into consideration the terrain features, compiles a precise timetable. After the exercise is checked and approved by the CO, the assignment is turned over to an officer instructor of the tactical group or the CO of a company for fulfillment. The instructor studies the plan and timetable thoroughly in order to conduct the assignment. At the time of the actual exercise in the field the instructor briefs the students on their own disposition and that of the enemy, has this repeated several times by different students, and finally appoints one student to conduct the assigned mission. This student, acting as platoon leader, issues his orders and briefs the platoon on the mission, which is then carried out. If the exercise proceeds well the instructor acts only as an observer, otherwise he steps in to check or correct any mistakes on the part of the student-instructor. Initially the training on all levels takes place at the school drill field, and once each week there is a night exercise for four or five hours. Later the school training is combined with training at Slavkov (4955N-1750E) a part of the Libava (4943N-1713E) training area. The Slavkov training area is about 11 km from Lipnik (4932N-1736E). Departure time for the trip of Slavkov is usually set for 1800 on Tuesday, with marching time set at 2½ hours. Training at Slavkov is strict; stress is put on the technique of issuing orders, correct transmission of orders, individual and weapons camouflage, proper digging-in techniques, and position-holding tactics. Training continues through Wednesday and Thursday, and includes night training. At about 1800 Thursday the students march back to the school at Lipnik. On the day after the return, the instructor reviews the training, points out all errors, and comments upon successful phases of the exercises conducted. The officer in charge of a training mission is responsible for its success or failure. He prepares his report on the mission to the staff of his department. While a student can be reprimanded and corrected on the spot during training, any fault of the officer in charge is brought out during the fortnightly meeting of the staff of the school.

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-5-

SECRET

50X1

8. In the spring of 1950 a commission from the Ministry of National Defense was present at the school to check on the methods and progress of training. Later the staff of the school was congratulated by the school CO because the commission had found no flaw in the training. Since, however, the instructors themselves were cognizant of their faults they did not think too highly of the commission.
9. Toward the end of May each year both year classes of the school go to the Libava area for bivouac training. Billets for the students are provided at the village of Neprivazy. At the camp the students have no class instruction but go on bivouac to apply their theoretical training in the field. They dig foxholes, trenches and underground installations, lay AP and AT mines, and operate all types of infantry weapons with live ammunition. Company COs direct the tactical firing of the platoons, while an officer from the school tactical department, either a staff captain or a major, and an officer from the ordnance section, a major, direct the fire of the companies.
10. The following is an example of a daily training schedule during the platoon training phase of the school year:

Subject: Infantry platoon in the attack

Procedure: Formation prior to attack; initial attack; assault in waves; capture of first, second and third lines of the enemy defense (trenches and foxholes); securing the captured positions

Strength: The infantry platoon reinforced by an HMG squad and a 45-mm AT squad

Object: Teaching students how to direct combat, acquire command techniques, develop initiative, quickness of perception and decision

Place: Hill 487 north of Slavkov

Instruction according to infantry regulations, articles 56-64

Weapons and Equipment: Infantry T/E without knapsack

- 4 LMGs, model 26
- 6 SMGs
- Rifles
- 1 flare pistol
- 1 pair of binoculars
- 4 red or white flags (20 x 30 cm or 40 x 50 cm) to mark weapons and positions

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-6-

SECRET

50X1

30 m of barbed wire to simulate barbed wire obstacles and provide practice in cutting barbed wire

10 rounds for each rifle

40 rounds for each SMG

120 rounds for each LMG

200 rounds for each HMG

3 rounds of flare cartridges (two red and one white; the color signals are varied)

The HMG squad had one HMG, Czech model 37; the AT squad was equipped with one 45-mm AT gun, Soviet model 1944. In the AT squad the NCO leader had a German 9-mm pistol and the other four men in the squad were equipped with rifles, German model 98 N, 1944. The time for the exercise was eight hours broken down as follows:

March to and from the exercise	- 50 min
Orientation and discussion, reconnaissance reports	- 50 min
CO's check and approval or revision of the plan	- 40 min
CO's instructions to the platoon and squad leaders	- 30 min
Platoon and squad leaders issue orders to their commands	- 30 min
Accomplishment of the exercise	- 190 min
Reserve time	- 30 min
Critique and evaluations	- 40 min
Check of equipment	- 20 min
Total:	480 min-8 hours

11. The following is the T/E of the Lipnik nad Bečvou infantry training school:

(a) Weapons:

1500 rifles - German model 98 N, 7.92 mm

800 SMGs - Czech Model 48 A (wooden stock) and Model 48 B (collapsible stock), 9 mm, manufactured in 1948 and 1949 in Povzská Bystrica

120 LMGs - Czech Model 26, 7.92 mm, manufactured by Ceska Zbrojovka at Brno; old but serviceable

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-7-

SECRET

50X1

- 45 HMGs - Czech Model 37, 7.92 mm; old but usable
- 16 Mortars - four German made 80-mm M, old; twelve Soviet made 82-mm S, old
- 16 45-mm AT guns - Soviet made, old WW II issue

(b) Ammunition:

50X1

(c) Vehicles:

- 4 passenger cars - Skoda model 1101, 1948; used as staff cars
- 12 to 16 trucks - Praga RN 3½ ton models; used to transport personnel, weapons and ammunition
- 8 trucks - English Austin types, 1½ to 2 ton; used to transport personnel, weapons and ammunition
- 2 busses - German Opel Blitz types; used to transport personnel

(d) Other school property:

- 64 riding horses for horsemanship training
- 24 to 28 horses for general usage in hauling supplies, towing weapons, etc

12. The methods and principles taught at the infantry school, and the knowledge acquired by its graduates are carried out into their military units. In my opinion, the Czech Army on the whole, lacks a sufficient contingent of well trained and qualified officers.

13.

-end-

Enclosure (A): Infantry Training School in Lipnik nad Beovou, CSR with Legend.

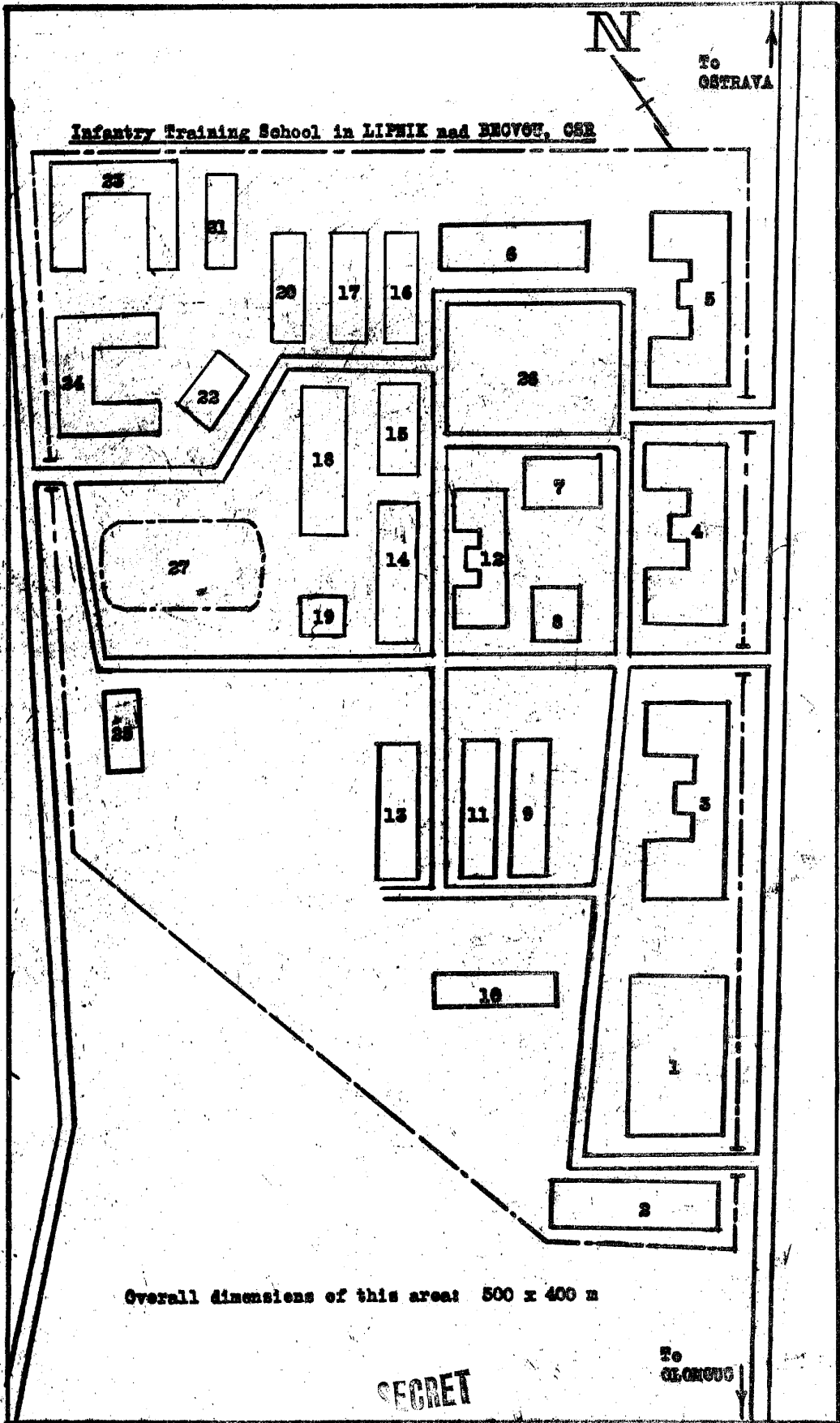
SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

ENCLOSURE (A)
Page -1-

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET



SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

ENCLOSURE (A)

Page -2-

SECRET

50X1

Infantry Training School in LIPNIK nad BECVOU, CSRLegend

1. Infantry training school headquarters; three story red brick; 35 x 15 m
2. Garages for four passenger cars; red brick, 20 x 8 m
3. Classrooms, messhall, dormitories for students, offices of school company; red brick, 30 x 12 m
4. Classrooms, messhall, dormitories for students, offices of school company; red brick, 30 x 12 m
5. Classrooms, messhall, dormitories for students, offices of school company; red brick, 30 x 12 m
6. Target range for pistols, air guns, and small caliber rifles, 20 x 12 m
7. Clubhouse and movie theater; red brick, 12 x 10 m
8. Guardhouse; red brick, 7 x 5 m
9. Tailoring and shoe repair shops; ammunition warehouse; red brick; 30 x 10 m
10. Engineer supply; red brick, 12 x 5 m
11. Classrooms and gymnasium; red brick, 30 x 10 m
12. Dispensary; red brick, 20 x 10 m
13. Clothing warehouse; red brick, 30 x 10 m
14. Garage for seven cars; red brick, 30 x 7 m
15. Machine shop, carpentry shop, and bookbinding shop; red brick; 18 x 7 m
16. Stables, 25 x 9 m
17. Stables, 25 x 9 m
18. Garage and repair workshop
19. Gasoline station
20. Stables, 25 x 9 m
21. Hq of the school CO; red brick, 15 x 7 m
- 22, 23 and 24. Barracks for guard squad, LMG squad, HMG squad, Mort squad, Inf squad, grooms; also offices and shops; red brick; 22 is 12 x 7 m; 23 and 24 are 20 x 15 m with wings 7 m wide.
25. Pigsty
26. Drill ground
27. Sports field, 60 x 45 m

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET